Church of St. James the Less

Falls of Schuylkill, Philadelphia

Three quarters of a century ago, the village of the Falls of Schuylkill presented a different appearance from the present, and the cemeteries that now cover the hills between it and the city were in their infancy. The Ridge Road had long been a main avenue of travel, but many of the tracts that are now built up in rows of houses were then woodland, or were occupied by country places of considerable size. Here and there only along the Ridge may still be seen a few of the dwellings of an humbler sort that antedate that time.

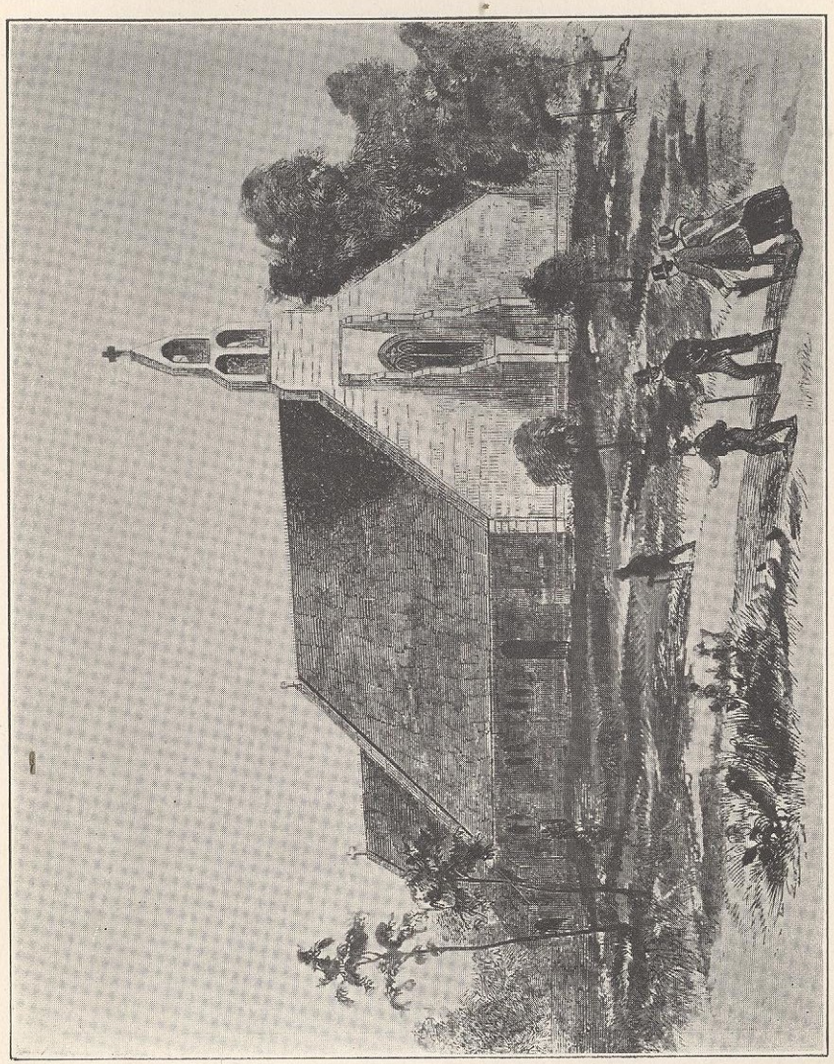
One of the country places of that day was "Mount Peace," on the site of the present cemetery of the same name. It was the home of Robert Ralston, the leading spirit in the establishment of the church which is the subject of this history. Mr. Ralston as well as others connected with the enterprise, were members of St. James' Church, Philadelphia, of which the late Rev. Henry J. Morton, D.D., was then the rector.

The minutes of the vestry take us back to April 30, 1846, when a meeting of gentlemen was called, at Mount Peace, upon Mr. Ralston's invitation, for the purpose of considering the expediency of establishing a parish church in the neighborhood. The meeting as it appears, was quite an efficient one for transacting business. It resolved to organize the proposed congregation, to choose twelve vestrymen, and to consider and adopt a form of incorporation, which it proceeded to do, in all details. The vestrymen chosen were Messrs. Robert Ralston, George Blight, Cornelius S. Smith, Tobias Wagner, Charles Treichel, M.D., Philip M. Hagner, John R. Wilmer, William

F. Griffitts, Joseph S. Burnett, George Helmuth, Osman Reed and Jas. C. Kempton. On the same day, and at the same place, the newly appointed vestry met, and organized, electing Messrs. Robert Ralston and George Blight, wardens, and Rev. Henry J. Morton, temporary rector of the new church. He accepted the charge, and took the chair. Messrs. Ralston, Blight and Wilmer were forthwith appointed a Committee on Site and Plans for the church, and Messrs. Ralston, Smith and Griffitts a Committee on By-Laws, which business being successfully accomplished the meeting adjourned.

It is said that the name of the Church was chosen with reference to the greater St. James' Church, Philadelphia, with which it had such close ties. And this also suggests the ideal which the organizers of the parish seem to have had clearly in mind. Their purpose was to build a church which should be a country house of worship, as similar as possible to the best type of such a church that England could furnish, a veritable home of retirement and meditation, a quiet house of prayer. In the carrying out of this project the influence of the Oxford Movement was consciously felt, its echoes having then for several years been heard in America.

It was only ten days before another meeting was held to hear from the Committee on Site and Plans, and the convincing reasons in favor of the present beautiful site were stated as being, first, proximity to the Falls Village and to the population across the river; second, a central position in the triangle formed by St. Luke's, Germantown; St. Matthew's, Francisville, and St. David's, Manayunk, each two and a half miles distant; third, a sufficient distance from railroads and noisy or dusty roads; fourth, proximity to the Ridge Road as a means of access, and fifth, the commanding eminence of the location. The site was approved, subject to the possibility of making suitable terms for it. At a third meeting in June the committee was authorized to accept it if it should be offered to them, and finally, at a meeting on July 27th, tender of the property by the Laurel Hill Cemetery Company was reported



OLD PRINT OF CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE LESS

CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE LESS

and accepted with thanks. This original lot was of about an acre, being 350 feet on Lamb Tavern Road (now Clearfield Street), 400 feet on Nicetown Lane (now Hunting Park Ave.) and about 250 feet at the base of the triangle. The church plan, which was subsequently adopted and carried out, was proposed at the June meeting. The plans were furnished by the honorary secretary of the English Ecclesiological Society, formerly the Cambridge Camden Society, who was frequently consulted during the progress of the work. The church was designed to be in most respects a reproduction of St. Michael's, Long Staunton, Cambridgeshire, and its erection was authorized at that same meeting, at a cost not to exceed $3,000. The Contractor was Mr. John E. Carver.

At a meeting on August 5th, the Rev. Dr. Morton tendered his resignation as rector, to take effect upon the appointment of his successor, and the Rev. D. H. Macurdy was unanimously chosen at a salary of $300 per annum. The Rev. Mr. Macurdy took charge at once and remained for a year. In October estimates for the erection of the church were approved. Each member of the vestry had previously been requested to raise $200.00 towards its erection. On October 28th the corner-stone was laid by the diocesan, the Rt. Rev. Alonzo Potter, D.D. The collection of funds, however, proceeded but slowly. From January 1, 1847, the rector's salary was made $500 and a few years later this was raised to $700.

It however appeared that the cost of the church building would exceed the estimates. The original contract had been for $5,100, which had soon been increased to $6,960 by additional items. The work proceeded during 1847, and it became necessary to raise money on notes to meet pressing obligations. Through 1847 and 1848 lack of stone and other delays besides the lack of funds hindered its progress, but when at last the church was completed the statement of the committee was amply borne out, that "a house had been erected something worthy of Him who is worshipped there—at the least—a comely thank-offering for manifold and great mercies,

and a model of beauty and durability." No expense had been spared that could help in producing the ideal aimed at. The actual cost had been about $30,000.

After two ineffectual elections to the rectorship, on St. Andrew's Day, 1847, the Rev. Christopher B. Wyatt, in Deacon's orders, was unanimously chosen and accepted.

At this time in the history of the Church the activities of the vestry were almost continuous, and their troubles, mainly financial, were very great. In the year 1847, for instance, there were sixteen meetings.

In September, 1848, a parochial school was commenced with bright prospects and conducted for several years in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Mowbray.

The first interment in the Church-yard was the daughter of the then rector, Dr. Wyatt, in 1854. Her grave is immediately east of the southern door of the Church.

At a meeting of the vestry held on April 13th, 1848, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That a lot in the burial ground be tendered to the Bishop for his acceptance."

The policy begun at this time of tendering a final resting place to the Bishops of the Diocese has been continued throughout the history of the Parish. It will be noted that Bishops Onderdonk, Stevens and Whittaker are laid at rest in the beautiful Church-yard.

On September 10th, 1849, the seal of the Church was adopted. It consists of a device showing the west end view of the Church surrounded with the words: Sigillum Ecclesiæ S. Jacobi Minoris, 1846. This seal has continued in use up to the present time.

In 1850 Mr. James Minton, of Stoke-upon-Trent, England, presented to the Church a beautiful Reredos and the vestry passed a resolution thanking him for his gift, and at the same time congratulated his house for the liberal and careful execution of the flooring tiles which had been so much admired. In 1913 it became necessary to remove all of these tiles when

the cement floor was placed in the Church. The greatest care was exercised in removing them and replacing them as nearly as possible exactly as originally laid, and with great success.

In 1850 the following resolution was passed by the vestry: "Resolved; That the thanks of the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry of the Church of St. James the Less, near the Falls of Schuylkill, be tendered to the Rev. Benjamin Webb, Honorable Secretary of the Ecclesiological (late Cambridge Camden) Society, for the advise so frequently given toward the erection of the Church of St. James the Less, according to the very beautiful and appropriate plans, elevations and designs originally furnished by the said Society."

In February, 1848, the Rev. Mr. Wyatt was ordained to the priesthood and he remained in charge until April, 1851.

The vestry desired to purchase from the Laurel Hill Cemetery Company the balance of the present lot, that on which the old Rectory and Parish house formerly stood and on which the Sexton's house now stands, carrying the property to the line of Thirty-third Street, and this was finally accomplished in 1851.

In May, 1850, the total indebtedness of the parish, amounting to about $14,000, and chiefly resulting from the erection of the church, was funded as a lien upon the burying grounds in bonds of $100 each, made receivable in payment for lots, the interest being guaranteed for three years by members of the vestry. The church was then consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Potter, on Trinity Sunday, May 26, 1850, there being present the Rev. Messrs. Odenheimer, Bonner, Billup, Ogilby, Peters, Brunner, Bournes, Muhler, and the rector. Bishop Potter himself preached the sermon.

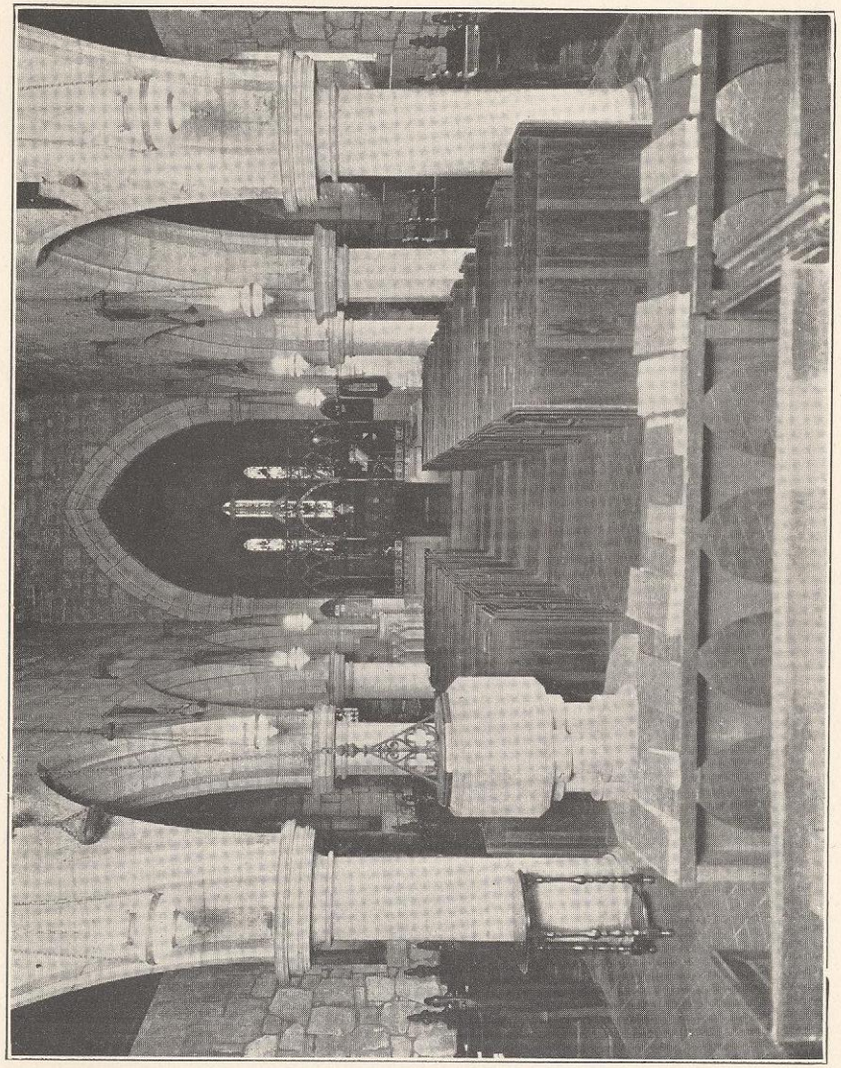
On April 16, 1851, the Rev. Mr. Wyatt resigned the rectorship, and years afterward his remains were laid at rest in the Church-yard. In August the Rev. Andrew Mackie was chosen rector and remained for about a year, at a later date serving on the staff of the Philadelphia City Mission. While at St. James the Less he took an active part in the work of

the Retreat School for Young Ladies, on School House Lane. A Committee appointed to obtain plans for a rectory reported in December, and the rectory was built the next year. During the early months of 1853, the rectorship was vacant, but on April 29th the Rev. Anthony Ten Broeck was called from the charge of a successful boys' school in the District of Columbia, and the rectory was enlarged to accommodate such a school. The total expenditure for these additional grounds and buildings was $13,500. The Retreat School was finally closed in 1853, the lady in charge, Miss Spaford, having resigned and it being impossible longer to retain the property on School House Lane rented for the purpose. That school, although a constant expense, was considered to have served a very useful purpose. Mr. Blight resigned as accounting warden in 1855. From 1882 until his death, however, he served as rector's warden.

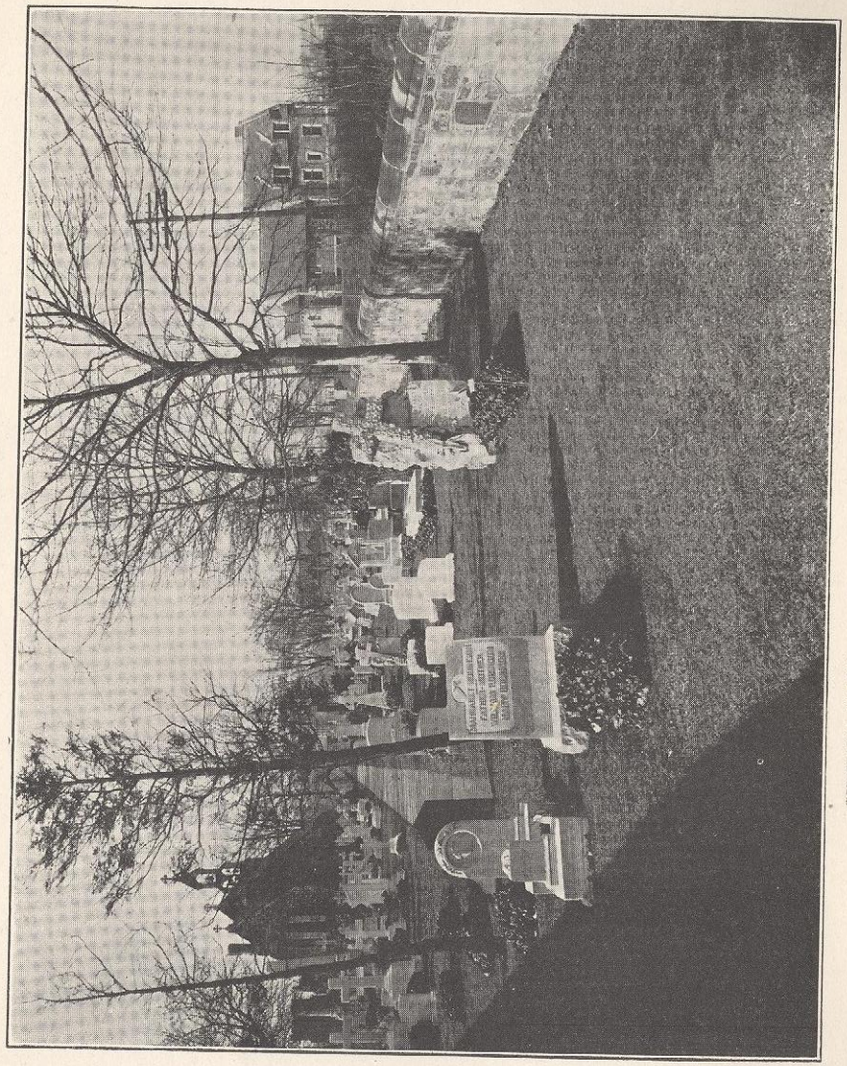
After the resignation of Mr. Ten Broeck, in 1856, the Rev. C. M. Parkman became locum tenens for a few months. On March 31st, 1857, the Rev. J. Pinkney Hammond succeeded, leaving in 1858 to take charge of St. Michael's, Germantown. During his rectorship, on November 24th, 1857, the Rev. Bishop Onderdonk, consecrated the older section of the Church-yard, the newer parts being consecrated on October 21st, 1883, by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Welles, of Wisconsin, acting for the Rt. Rev. Bishop Stevens, and on November 1st, 1897, by Bishop Whitaker.

In 1858 the Church suffered one of its greatest losses in the death of Mr. Robert Ralston, the prime mover of its organization who had been Rector's Warden since the first meeting of the vestry in 1846. The records of the vestry are evidence of his unswerving loyalty to every detail of the history of the Church during his life.

On September 20th, 1858, the Rev. Frederick Wilson, an English Clergyman, succeeded, remaining two years, being followed on October 9th, 1860, by the Rev. Edward Shippen Watson.



INTERIOR OF CHURCH



CHURCH YARD. SITE OF NEW RECTORY ON RIGHT

It was during Dr. Watson's rectorship in 1867 that the burden of debt resting on the Parish was lightened by a bequest of Mr. Charles W. Kinsman, who was Secretary of the vestry from 1861 until his death. Under his will certain real estate in the City of Philadelphia, assessed at $26,500, was left to the Church. Under the terms of the will the seats in the Church are to be free for all time and The Holy Communion is to be celebrated on every Sunday. These conditions were accepted by the vestry for themselves and their successors.

Dr. Watson resigned on December 6th, 1869, and was succeeded by the Rev. Robert Ritchie, who was elected on March 29th, 1870, and accepted the call to the rectorship on May 1st.

Shortly afterwards the remaining indebtedness of $3,500 was raised by subscription and the nucleus of an endowment fund amounting to $10,000 was begun. Ten years later this was increased by a bequest from the late Moro Phillips of $25,000. At the present time the total endowments amount to $110,000.

In 1874 the original Parish House adjoining the old Rectory was erected as a gift from Mr. John Dobson, then a vestryman. This together with the old Rectory were removed in 1918 at the time the new Parish House was constructed, the ground on which they stood being thrown into the Church-yard.

The organ in the Church was placed in its present location in 1876.

In 1882 Miss Ella L. Beerhalter was elected organist and at the time of writing this account, 1923, was still filling the same post after forty years of the most faithful and conscientious work.

The beauty of the Church-yard was commented upon by the public press as is shown by an extract from the *Philadelphia Inquirer* of November 30th, 1885:

"No unduly obtrusive railings, or hedges, or walls are allowed between the lots. Small white corner stones serve to indicate the boundaries of the grassy plots. An original

By-Law of the Corporation requires that all designs for tombs or monuments must be approved by the Rector and Wardens. The whole idea seems to be to keep the grounds as unostentatious, yet as beautiful as possible." The vestry has always made special effort to adhere to this regulation, though at times strenuous efforts appear to have been made to break it. It is believed that the great beauty of the Church-yard is due to these restrictions.

In 1892 a very much needed improvement was made in the Church-yard in the improvement of the footwalks. They were made of clay, and on rainy days unless boards were laid, the parishioners sank ankle deep in the mud. After a great deal of discussion the Vestry decided to build these walks with flag stone with a foundation of broken stone twenty-two inches deep. The cost of this work was $2,360.60. The wisdom of this expenditure has been shown as after thirty years they are still in good condition.

In 1895 the Parish Schools were finally closed. This was brought about by the resignation of Miss Mary Rebecca Cannon, who was in charge.

The rectorship of the Rev. Robert Ritchie continued until his death on January 7th, 1907, during which time the Churchly traditions of the Parish were maintained and thirty-seven years of the most faithful and useful work accomplished. Immediately after his death his parishioners erected to his memory a window in the Church which is described elsewhere.

The year 1896 saw the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Church and the sermon at the special service commemorating that occasion was preached by the Rt. Rev. Leighton Coleman, Bishop of Delaware.

On December 14th, 1896, the following resolution of the vestry was passed:

"Whereas, there is a desire of a number of persons interested in the preservation and perpetuation of the original forms of usages of the Church of St. James the Less, in their primitive customs and places:—Resolved, That there shall be

always two real candles with their candlesticks to stand on the Re-Table or Super-Altar as in former times; and that however many more lights or candles be used at any time, that these two shall continue as distinctive Altar lights as in the primitive usage of the Church." It was the understanding of the vestry that the candlesticks presented by Dr. Stocker be the ones to be used.

A very great improvement of the Church-yard was carried out in 1897 by the construction of massive masonry retaining walls along Hunting Park Avenue and the drive at the south-western corner of the yard and the filling in of the low lying space at this point, giving a much needed improvement to the grounds as a whole and providing many more burial lots. This improvement cost $21,566.

An addition to the sexton's house consisting of a lengthening of the building, providing for two rooms, was carried out in 1902.

Following the death of Rev. Robert Ritchie, in 1907, Rev. Edgar M. Cowan was made Minister in charge until April 31st, 1907. Mr. Cowan had been Curate since April, 1906.

On April 4th, 1907, Rev. Edward Ritchie was elected Rector and began his duties on July 7th of that year.

The Bell Tower was erected under an agreement with the vestry, in 1908, by Mr. Rodman Wanamaker, the location and plans having been approved by Mr. Henry Vaughan, who was called in consultation as to the effect on the Church and Church-yard, and approved by him. It is a very handsome stone structure designed by Mr. John T. Windrim to agree with the Church and its surroundings, and consists of a mausoleum on the ground floor, a crypt beneath and a tower above with a chime of fifteen bells weighing about 26,000 pounds. It was constructed and paid for entirely by Mr. Wanamaker who also gave the Church a fund of $4,000 to properly maintain it for ever and also to pay for ringing the chimes. It was dedicated by Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Jaggar, acting for the Bishop of Pennsylvania, on February 5th, 1910. The

chimes are operated by electricity and Mr. Wanamaker in 1922 also placed in the tower a set of electrically operated chimes ringing the hour and quarter hours. The clock is not visible on the outside of the tower.

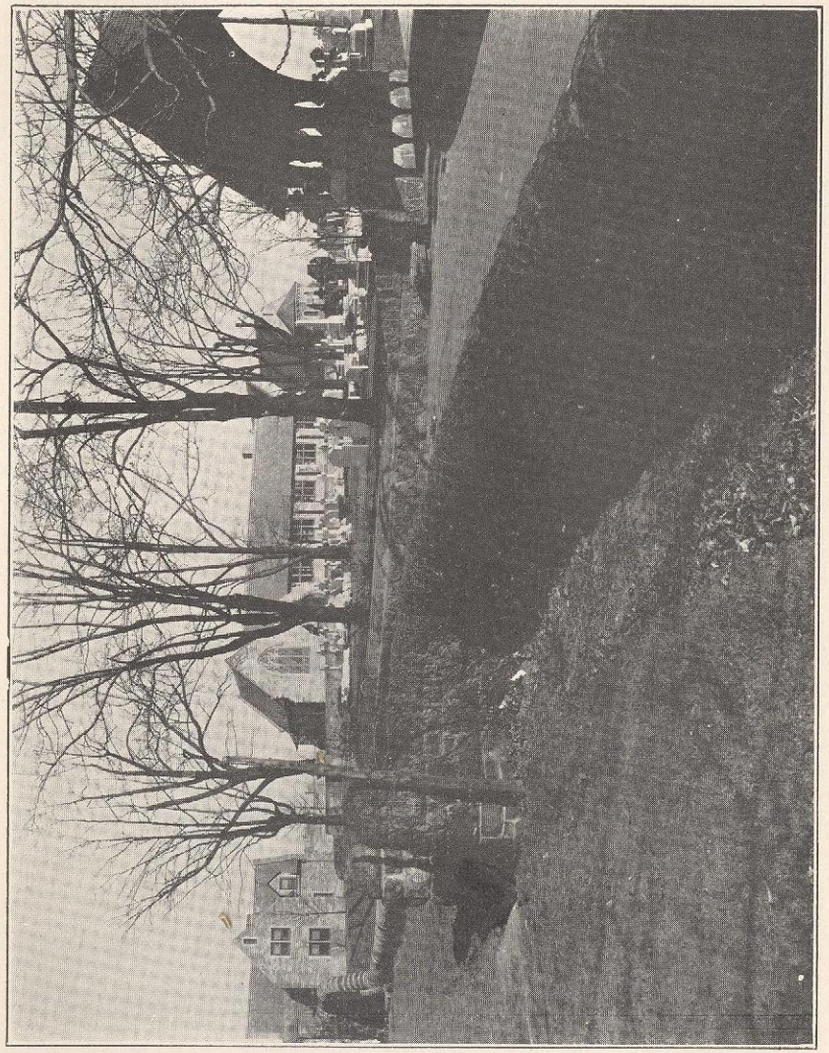
The Church as originally planned had no cellar except a small room for the heater between the north and south doors. The tiles in the main floor rested directly on the ground. It was consequently cold and damp. In 1913 contracts were made by which the entire floor of the Church and Chancel were removed, a very much enlarged cellar excavated and covered with a damp-proofed concrete slab over the entire floor on which the original tiles were relaid. A complete vapor system of heating was installed and electric lighting introduced at a total cost of about $7,500. At the same time through the kindness of the late John W. Pepper, a vestryman, the entire outside of the foundation walls were damp-proofed.

In December, 1914, the vestry made overtures to the Estate of the late John Dobson for the purchase of a lot of ground on the north side of Clearfield Street, between Thirty-second and Thirty-third Streets, to prevent the erection of buildings which might be objectionable to the Church.

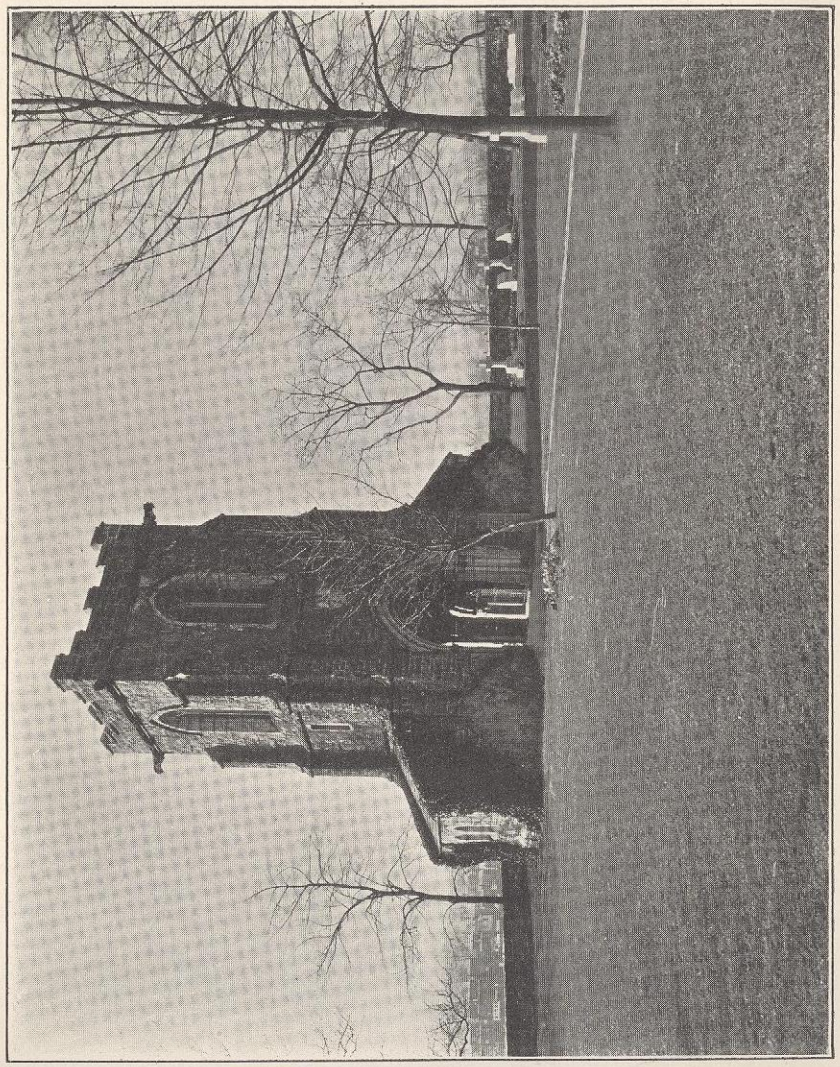
Through the generosity of Mrs. Samuel D. Riddle and Miss Sarah W. Fiske (now Mrs. Walter M. Jeffords) this lot was donated to the Church.

In 1916 a group of buildings was designed by Messrs. Stewardson and Page to stand on this lot. They consisted of a Rectory at the east end, a Parish House and a Sexton's House at the west end, planned of local grey stone with slate roofs and Indiana limestone trimmings, to match the early English Gothic of the Church.

The late Mrs. H. Wilson Catherwood, who for many years had taken a great interest in the Parish, erected the Parish House in memory of her daughter, Caroline Reynolds Tucker, at a cost exceeding $40,000. At the same time the Vestry erected the Sexton's House (now used temporarily as a Rectory) from Parish funds, at a cost of $11,026. It is



MEMORIAL PARISH BUILDING AND SEXTON'S HOUSE



MEMORIAL BELL TOWER

proposed to build the Rectory as soon as the necessary funds can be obtained.

The Parish House contains on the first floor the main Sunday School Room, 30 feet by 70 feet, with a gallery accommodating in all 360 persons. There is also on this floor a Library, 30 feet by 19 feet, and a pantry. At the east end of the building is a Rector's Study and an Oratory accommodating about 50 persons.

In the basement is a gymnasium, 30 feet by 70 feet; a large men's locker room with showers and a kitchen connecting with the pantry by a dumb waiter.

The corner stone of the Parish House was laid on the Feast of the Transfiguration, August 6th, 1916, by the Rev. A. J. Arnold, acting for the Bishop, and the Benediction of the Oratory and Parish House on December 15th, 1917, by the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Garland, Bishop Suffragan.

The lover of country churches can only be charmed by a visit to St. James the Less as it stands today. The heavy oaken lych-gate is characteristic. The money to erect it was raised by the late Mrs. Francis A. Lewis, who as a young woman living in the neighborhood saw almost every stone in the Church placed, and who with Mrs. John Welsh, Jr., and Miss Ralston, daughters of Mr. Robert Ralston, cleaned the Church every Saturday morning for the Sunday services, there being no funds to employ a cleaner. The west gable which faces the lych-gate suggests at once, by the lines of the roof, sloping almost to the ground, the thought of seclusion and quiet. It is capped by an open stone belfry, with four bells presented by Mr. John Cook standing in open arches, from which in the early days the Angelus was always rung, and for many years later on the bells were pealed for the services of the Church. The old belfry cross now stands by the lych-gate, while an exact copy of it rises in its place. The cross above the east gable was the gift of some school boys who were brought out on a visit to the Church in the early days, and among them were the Rt. Rev. Bishop Coleman, of Delaware, and Mr. Charles M. Burns, afterwards a vestryman.

The main entrance is through the south porch through a heavy early English archway and vestibule. The thought of massiveness is on every side enhanced by the narrow two light lancet windows and the walls thirty inches thick faced with dressed stone on the inside. The heavy arches supporting the interior walls are carried on short pillars alternately round and octagonal, and the narrow nave, without clere-story windows is impressive in its apparent dim height and length. The two front windows on either side are set with designs, that in fineness of execution correspond to their small size, which is insufficient at any time to make the Church glaringly bright.

The east window executed by Girente, who restored the windows of Saint Chapelle, in Paris, is in three narrow lancets, the middle of which is a curious representation of the genealogical tree of Christ, the four Evangelists appearing in the south lancet, and the four greater prophets in the north. It was the gift of Mr. Henry Farnum, in 1850.

The west window was placed by Mr. Ellis Yarnall, who collected money from the friends of Robert Ralston Cox, who was drowned in the west and was buried in the Church-yard. It was also executed by Girente.

The tiles back of the Altar were presented by Mr. James Minton, of Stoke-upon-Trent. The original Altar was of brownstone and very simple in construction. In 1858 Mr. James C. Kempton presented the stone Super-Altar in memory of Mr. Robert Ralston. In 1880 it was enlarged by building around it a more elaborate Altar with a massive slab or mensa, supported on columns of black marble with carved capitals, the original altar which was not touched by the chisel, appearing through the arches. This work together with the beautiful Rood-Screen, of copper, brass and iron and the decoration of the Chancel ceiling were the gift of Mr. Moro Phillips, in 1878, in memory of Emily Louise Phillips. The Rood-Screen was designed by Mr. Charles M. Burns, the Architect of the Memorial Church of the Advocate, and some time vestryman of St. James the Less. The illuminated metal

covering of the Super-Altar and the Altar Cross were the gift of Messrs. Kinsman and Adams, in 1863.

The lancet windows in the choir were presented by the then Rector, Rev. Robert Ritchie.

In 1849 Mr. James Farnum presented the first candlesticks for the Altar. In 1887 Mr. Moro Phillips presented six candlesticks for the Altar and two chandeliers for the Chancel in memory of his father. In 1896 six new candlesticks were presented in pairs by Dr. A. E. Stocker, Mrs. Bloomfield McIlvaine and Miss Charlotte H. Belt.

In 1895 the present beautiful stone pulpit was installed in memory of Mr. George Blight, who was Accounting Warden from 1848 to 1852, and Rector's Warden from 1882 until his death in 1894. It was the gift of Miss Elizabeth Blight, Mrs. John G. Parke and Mr. Atherton Blight. The credence is in memory of Mrs. Mary Dobson Fiske; the new handsome Communion rail of bronze was presented by Mr. A. P. Smith in memory of his mother, a communicant of the Church for many years. The bronze hymn boards were presented by the Altar Guild.

One of the most interesting memorials is the window at the east end of the north aisle of the Church erected by the Parishioners in memory of Robert Ritchie, D.D. It was dedicated on St. Andrew's Day, 1907, by the late Rt. Rev. Alexander Mackay-Smith, then Bishop Coadjutor. It represents Christ as the Good Shepherd. The following inscription in a bronze tablet is below the window sill:—

To the Glory of God and in memory of
Robert Ritchie, Priest
1870-1907
Erected by his Parishioners
Ora pro anima ejus

In the beautiful Church-yard are laid four Bishops of the Church; the grave of Rt. Rev. Bishop Stevens is close to the north door; that of Bishop Onderdonk, of Pennsylvania, is

Bp. Thomas J. Garland - Pa. 1931
Bp. Wm. Walter Webb - Milwaukee - 1933

to the east of the chancel; that of Bishop Perry, of Iowa, is to the southwest of the Church; that of Bishop O. W. Whitaker, to the northwest of the Church.

Of the Clergy, we find the tombstones of the following Rectors of the Church: Rev. C. B. Wyatt; Rev. Dr. Robert Ritchie and Rev. Edward Shippen Watson. Other stones mark the last resting places of Rev. Dr. Henry J. Morton; Rev. G. Emlen Hare; Rev. Dr. E. A. Foggo; Rev. Dr. James Montgomery, and his son, Rev. William W. Montgomery; Rev. Edward Hale; Rev. Stewart Stone; Rev. Chandler Hare; Rev. W. N. N. Stewart; Rev. G. D. E. Mortimer; Rev. Samuel Hinds; Rev. Thomas J. Davies; Rev. John James Rowan Spong; Rev. Hermon G. Batterson, D.D.; Rev. Alden Welling; Rev. Edgar Cope; Rev. Francis D. Canfield; Rev. William P. Lewis, D.D.

Of the laity of the Church there is such a list of distinguished names that none can be mentioned here.

The present officers of the Church are:—Rev. Edward Ritchie, Rector; Samuel T. Wagner, Rector's Warden and Secretary; Francis A. Lewis, Accounting Warden; John Wagner, Treasurer of the Burial Lot Trust Fund. The other Vestrymen are: R. Emott Hare; C. S. W. Packard; James Logan Fisher; Clement B. Newbold; Wilson Catherwood; Sidney W. Keith; Thomas C. Reutter, R. Montgomery Haines, and C. Stevenson Newhall.

In the following pages will be found complete lists of

1. The Rectors.
2. The Rector's Wardens.
3. The Accounting Wardens.
4. The Secretaries.
5. The Treasurers of the Burial Lot Trust Fund.
6. The Vestrymen.
7. The delegates to the Diocesan Conventions.

RECTORS
CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE LESS

	ELECTED	
Rev. Henry J. Morton	April 30, 1846	Resigned Aug. 5, 1846
Rev. D. H. Macurdy	Aug. 5, 1846	Resigned Aug. 26, 1847
Rev. Christopher B. Wyatt	Nov. 30, 1847	Resigned April 16, 1851
Rev. Andrew Mackie	Aug. 9, 1851	Retired in fall of 1852
Rev. Anthony Ten Broeck	April 29, 1853	Resigned April 12, 1856
Rev. I. Pinkney Hammond	Mar. 31, 1857	Resigned July 20, 1858
Rev. Frederick Wilson	Sept. 20, 1858	Resigned June 29, 1860
Rev. Edward Shippen Watson	Oct. 9, 1860	Resigned Dec. 6, 1869
Rev. Robert Ritchie	Mar. 29, 1870	Died January 7, 1907
Rev. Edward Ritchie	April 4, 1907	Resigned 1926
Rev. C. T. Harriman	Feb 1, 1927	" 1942

RECTOR'S WARDENS

Robert Ralston	1846 to 1858	Chas. T. Adams	1878 to 1882
A. E. Stocker	1858 to 1860	George Blight	1882 to 1894
George Helmuth	1860 to 1869	Robert S. Smith	1894 to 1920
E. L. Buckley	1869 to 1877	Samuel T. Wagner	1920 to 1931
Geo. M. Conarroe	1877 to 1878	John Wagner 1931 "	

ACCOUNTING WARDENS

George Blight	1846 to 1852	John F. Cabot	1860 to 1864
George Helmuth	1852 to 1857	Ellis Yarnall	1864 to 1885
Ellis Yarnall	1857 to 1858	Francis A. Lewis	1885 to
James C. Kempton	1858 to 1860	C. S. Newhall -	

SECRETARIES

James C. Kempton	1846 to 1858	John F. Young	1883 to 1892
John F. Cabot	1858 to 1861	Murray Rush	1892 to 1899
George W. Kinsman	1861 to 1866	Samuel T. Wagner	1899 to
Ernest Zantzinger	1866 to 1883	Lewis M. Evans -	

TREASURERS OF THE BURIAL LOT TRUST FUND

Robert S. Smith	1895 to 1913	John Wagner	1913 to

VESTRYMEN
CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE LESS

	ELECTED		
Robert Ralston	April 30, 1846	Died, March 20,	1858
George Blight	April 30, 1846	Resigned, July 28,	1854
	April 18, 1865	Died, December,	1894
Cornelius S. Smith	April 30, 1846	Membership ceased	1851
Tobias Wagner	April 30, 1846	Membership ceased	1849
Charles Treichel	April 30, 1846	Membership ceased	1856
Philip M. Hagner	April 30, 1846	Membership ceased	1848
John R. Witmer	April 30, 1846	Membership ceased	1855
Wm. F. Griffitts	April 30, 1846	Resigned, Nov. 20,	1857
Joseph S. Burnett	April 30, 1846	Resigned, July 27,	1846
George Helmuth	April 30, 1846	Membership ceased	1856
	April 26, 1859	Membership ceased	1869
Osman Reed	April 30, 1846	Membership ceased	1848
James C. Kempton	April 30, 1846	Died,	1862
Caleb Jones	April 5, 1847	Membership ceased	1848
Benjamin W. Frazier	May 4, 1847	Membership ceased	1857
John Cooke	April 24, 1848	Membership ceased	1852
John Lambert	April 24, 1848	Membership ceased	1854
James A. Farnum	April 9, 1849	Membership ceased	1854
Henry P. McKean	April 21, 1851	Membership ceased	1852
William Weir	April 21, 1851	Resigned, Dec. 10,	1855
Thomas Dunlap	April 12, 1852	Membership ceased	1853
Ellis Yarnall	April 12, 1852	Resigned, April 15,	1886
J. Parker Doan	April 5, 1854	Resigned, Dec. 10,	1855
Geo. H. Kirkham	April 5, 1854	Membership ceased	1855
Edward Shippen	April 10, 1855	Resigned, Feb. 12,	1857
Robert Mackie	April 10, 1855	Membership ceased	1859
John H. Heyberger	April 10, 1855	Membership ceased	1858
W. A. M. Fuller	Mar. 25, 1856	Resigned, Dec. 12,	1856
McGregor I. Mitcheson	Mar. 25, 1856	Membership ceased	1864
Ephraim Clark, Jr.	Mar. 25, 1856	Resigned, Feb. 9,	1858
Lewis Lewis, Jr.	Mar. 25, 1856	Membership ceased	1859
James A. Farnum	Mar. 25, 1856	Membership ceased	1869
John F. Cabot	Dec. 12, 1856	Membership ceased	1864
Atherton Blight	April 16, 1857	Resigned, June 8,	1857
Clement A. Barclay	June 8, 1857	Membership ceased	1865
A. E. Stocker	Nov. 20, 1857	Membership ceased	1861
L. L. Walker	Feb. 9, 1858	Membership ceased	1860
James Dykes	April 6, 1858	Resigned, Sept. 19,	1860
G. W. Taylor	April 6, 1858	Membership ceased	1860
Samuel Lewis	April 26, 1859	Resigned, June 9,	1862
E. L. Buckley	April 10, 1860	Membership ceased	1880
G. W. Kinsman	April 10, 1860	Died,	1866

VESTRYMEN (Continued)
CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE LESS

	ELECTED		
Benjamin J. Ritter	April 2, 1861	Died, October,	1872
Charles T. Adams	April 2, 1861	Died, December,	1867
Richard R. Montgomery	Mar. 28, 1864	Membership ceased	1889
H. J. Feltus	Mar. 28, 1864	Membership ceased	1869
John S. Newbold	Mar. 28, 1864	Membership ceased	1867
Austin O. Willcox	Mar. 28, 1864	Membership ceased	1870
Ernest Zantzinger	April 23, 1867	Resigned, Feb. 23,	1883
Francis C. Yarnall	April 23, 1867	Died, October,	1890
John Dobson	April 13, 1868	Died,	1911
John Welsh, Jr.	Mar. 29, 1869	Died,	1881
George M. Conarroe	Mar. 29, 1869	Died, August,	1896
Chas. C. Dodson	April 18, 1870	Membership ceased	1884
C. B. Sellers	April 18, 1870	Membership ceased	1871
Samuel Hutchinson	April 11, 1871	Died,	1887
Thomas N. Adams	Oct. 30, 1872	Died, January,	1881
Moro Phillips	Mar. 30, 1880	Died,	1885
James F. Young	Jan. 29, 1881	Died, March	1894
Chas. M. Burns, Jr.	Dec. 12, 1881	Resigned, May 14,	1906
William H. Bucknor	Mar. 27, 1883	Resigned,	1893
Francis A. Lewis	April 14, 1884		
Charles E. Haines	Oct. 12, 1885	Died, December 1,	1917
Thomas R. Ash	April 15, 1886	Resigned, Feb. 19,	1891
George S. Philler	Oct. 10, 1887	Died,	1914
Murray Rush	Feb. 11, 1889	Resigned, Oct. 8,	1906
Greville E. Fryer	Feb. 9, 1891	Died,	1894
R. Emott Hare	Feb. 19, 1891		
Robert S. Smith	April 6, 1893	Died, April 11,	1920
Samuel T. Wagner	Dec. 1, 1898	" Aug.	1931
C. S. W. Packard	Oct. 9, 1899		
George W. Pepper	Oct. 9, 1899	Resigned, April 8,	1915
Clement B. Newbold	May 14, 1906		
James Logan Fisher	Oct. 8, 1906		
John W. Pepper	April 15, 1909	Died, November,	1918
John Wagner	Oct. 9, 1911		
Thomas J. Jeffries	April 8, 1915	Died, February 23,	1922
Wilson Catherwood	Dec. 13, 1915		
Sidney W. Keith	April 4, 1918		
Thomas C. Reutter	April 5, 1920		
R. Montgomery Haines	Mar. 31, 1921		
C. Stevenson Newhall	April 20, 1922		

John Newbold
Francis Lewis Jr.
John Packard
W. W. Frazier Jr.

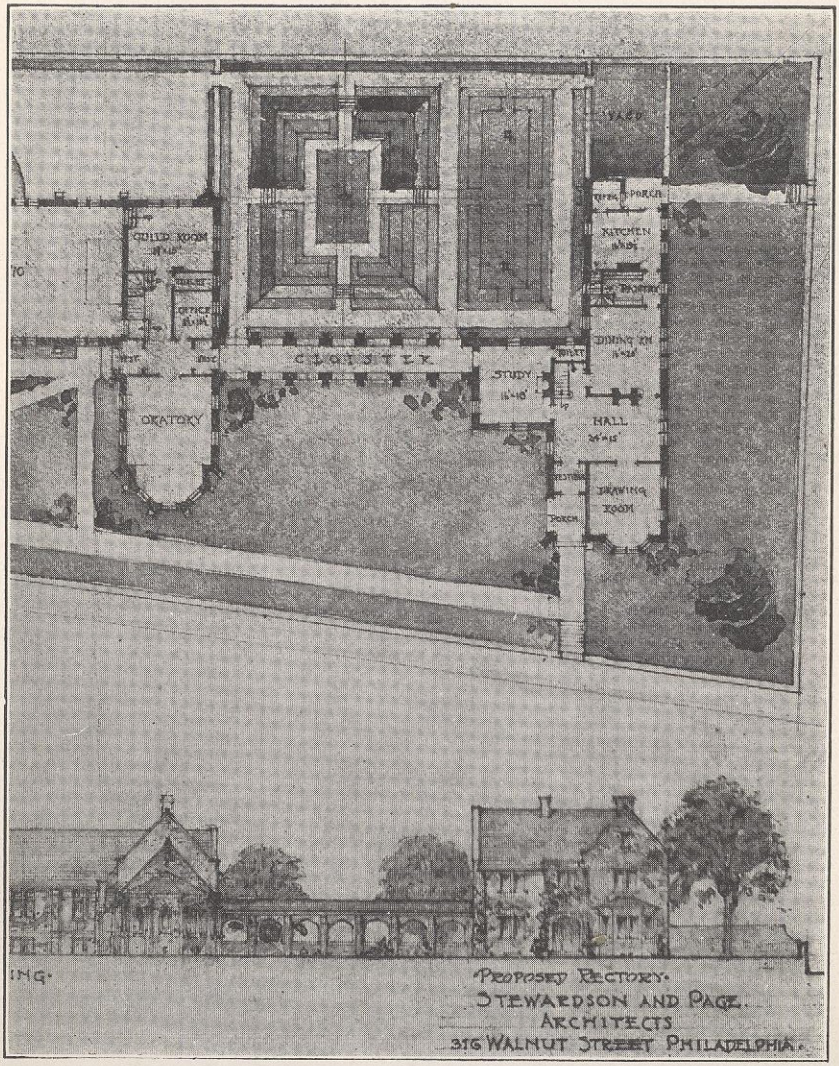
DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION
CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE LESS

George Blight	1847 to 1856 and 1879 to 1892
John R. Witmer	1847
Jas. C. Kempton	1847 to 1856
George Helmuth	1848, 1855, 1861 to 1868
Robert Ralston	1849 to 1857
J. Parker Doan	1854
John F. Cabot	1857 to 1863
Ephraim Clark, Jr.	1857
Clement A. Barclay	1858-59
A. E. Stocker	1858 to 1860
Samuel Lewis	1860
Ellis Yarnall	1861 to 1882
Richard R. Montgomery	1864, 1865
Benjamin J. Ritter	1864, 1867 to 1872
Geo. W. Kinsman	1866
John Dobson	1869
Geo. M. Conarroe	1870 to 1878
Ernest Zantzinger	1873 to 1882
Francis C. Yarnall	1883 to 1890
Chas. M. Burns, Jr.	1883
F. C. Young	1891 to 1893
Greville E. Fryer	1893 to 1908
Francis A. Lewis	1884 to 1895 and 1910 to
Murray Rush	1894 to 1905
Charles E. Haines	1896 to 1898 and 1906 to 1914
Samuel T. Wagner	1899 to
Robert S. Smith	1909 and 1915 to 1919
Wilson Catherwood	1920 to

PROPOSED NEW RECTORY

The only building needed to complete the plant is a new Rectory. Plans have been prepared and it is intended to erect it alongside the Parish Building. The house now occupied by the Rector was built for the Sexton, and when the new Rectory is built the unsightly old house on the grounds can be torn down and a large tract of ground planted in trees and flowers. There is no money in hand to build the Rectory. It will cost nearly $50,000.

Perhaps someone who has read these pages will be able and willing to erect this building and thus complete the plant of St. James the Less.



PLAN OF NEW RECTORY